

REMARKS

The Applicant has carefully reviewed and considered the Examiner's Office Action dated June 11, 2008. This Amendment accompanies a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) to ensure consideration of all of the patent documents submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement filed July 25, 2008. Reconsideration of the Office Action is respectfully requested in view of the following comments.

By this Amendment, the specification is revised to refer to the term "computer-readable medium", and claims 12 and 21 are amended. Accordingly, Claims 1-2, 4, 6, 8-13, 16-17 and 19-21 are pending in the present application.

The specification was objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the phrase "computer-readable medium". The specification has been amended to refer to the well-known term. Originally filed claims 18-19 recited a recording medium in which the information partitioning program has been recorded and is described with a code that is executable by a computer. That is, originally-filed claims described a computer-readable medium. In view of the foregoing amendments to the specification, it is submitted that the specification provides antecedent basis for "computer-readable medium" and withdrawal of that objection is requested.

Claims 12 and 21 were objected to because of a typographical error in the claims. The foregoing amendments to the claims correct the spelling in accordance with the Examiner's interpretation. Withdrawal of this claim objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-2, 4, 6, 8-9, 11-13, 17, 19 and 20-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0025288 to Yanase et al. (hereinafter referred to as "Yanase") in view of U.S. Patent

No. 5,530,794 to Luebbert. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Yanese is directed to a device and method for presenting new information, which does not disclose the recited “division pattern producing means” (independent claims 1 and 20) or “division pattern producing step” (independent claims 12 and 21) of the claimed invention, as acknowledged by the Examiner in the Office Action. That is, Yanese fails to disclose division pattern producing means or step for recognizing existence of plural lines including similar character strings in similar positions in the electronic document inputted **to produce the division pattern and register the same** in the recited division pattern storing means or step of the respective claimed invention. It is the Examiner’s position that column 9, lines 48-60 of Luebbert provides such a teaching. Applicant disagrees.

Luebbert is directed to a method and system for handling text that includes paragraph delimiters of differing formats. The Examiner relies on a passage that describes a scanning operation of text. In particular, according to lines 41-60 of Luebbert, the word processing system scans the first 10,000 bytes of text and counts each occurrence of different types of paragraph delimiters (e.g, a two-byte delimiter, 1310 or single byte delimiters 10 or 13). In many instances, only a single type of paragraph delimiter will be found. In other cases, the scanned paragraph or file may include multiple paragraph delimiters, some of which will not be used as the paragraph delimiter. By counting the instances of each type of paragraph delimiter found, the word processing system of Luebbert determines the paragraph delimiter having the highest frequency of occurrences and assigns the paragraph delimiter with the highest frequency count to all text within the scanned file. That is, Luebbert discloses that known types of paragraph

delimiters are searched for and counted to determine which known delimiter will be used to in the scanned text as the paragraph delimiter. The highest frequency count is considered as the paragraph delimiter in Luebbert.

Contrary to Luebbert, the claimed “division pattern producing means” or “division pattern producing step” does not use or search for known types of paragraph delimiters, but instead determines and produces a division pattern by recognizing existence of plural lines including similar character strings in similar positions in the electronic document inputted. As a result, the claimed invention can recognize and produce division patterns even though they are not known type of patterns. Consequently, the way of determining the division pattern of the claimed invention is quite different than that of Luebbert.

Neither Yanese nor Luebbert disclose, teach or suggest the recited “division pattern producing means” or “division pattern producing step” of the independent claims, for the reasons set forth above. Consequently, Applicant believes that no combination of Yanase and Luebbert presents a *prima facie* case of obviousness as the references fail to teach, disclose or suggest the claimed invention.

For the above stated reasons, it is submitted that all of the claims are allowable over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that this application be passed to issuance with claims 1-2, 4, 6, 8-13, 16-17 and 19-21.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge the official fee for the Request for Continued Examination (\$810.00) ,any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this

application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 22-0261, under Order No. 31759-190543.

Should the Examiner believe that a conference would advance the prosecution of this application, he is encouraged to telephone the undersigned counsel to arrange such a conference.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 25, 2008

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Catherine M. Voorhees", is written over a horizontal line.

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